GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1900
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2017
Schemes to PRIs
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes being implemented to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs);
(b) the details of funds allocated/sanctioned and utilized for these schemes during the last two years and the current year, State-wise;
(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to strengthen and to delegate more powers to Panchayati Raj Institutions; and
(d) the extent to which the Panchayati Raj Institutions have been successful in achieving their set objectives?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): During the current year, the scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is being implemented by Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) for strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) across the country. The Ministry is providing financial and technical support to PRIs under the scheme since 2016-17.

(b): Details of funds sanctioned and released to States and utilized thereof by States during the year 2015-16 under the erstwhile scheme of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) and during the 2016-17 and current year under component of RGSA /Capacity Building- Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (CB-PSA), and Incentivisation of Panchayats (another component of RGSA) are given in Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

(c) &(d): After incorporation of Part IX in the Constitution, the Panchayati Raj system has been institutionalized in the States where provisions of this Part are applicable. The Constitution recognizes Panchayats as institutions of self-government. Panchayat being 'Local Bodies' is a state subject mandated under Part IX and List II (State List) of Seventh Schedule (Article 246) of the Constitution of India. Article 243G of the Constitution allows discretion to State Legislature to endow the Panchayats with powers and authority to enable them to function as institutions of local self-governance. The extent to fulfilment of aspirations of citizens is dependent on the extent to which, funds, functions, and functionaries are devolved to the local bodies and the extent of their capacitating to fulfil these roles. The devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to the Panchayats to plan, implement and monitor schemes for economic development and social justice varies significantly among the States.

MoPR reviews the implementation of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution from time to time through meetings and discussions with States. The Devolution Index Report commissioned by MoPR assesses the policy and legislative framework and outcomes of the State in respect of Panchayati Raj. MoPR has been taking several steps to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the States and UTs covered under Part IX of the Constitution through providing financial and technical assistance under the scheme and programmes for capacity building of Panchayats to enable them to perform the devolved functions effectively and efficiently.

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